

APPEAL NO. 021813  
FILED SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

This appeal arises pursuant to the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, TEX. LAB. CODE ANN. § 401.001 *et seq.* (1989 Act). A contested case hearing (CCH) was held on June 13, 2002. The hearing officer resolved the disputed issue by deciding that the respondent's (claimant) compensable injury of \_\_\_\_\_, extends to and includes an injury to the thoracic spine, which also includes an aggravation of the congenital spinal stenosis and disc herniations in the thoracic spine. The appellant (carrier) appealed and the claimant responded.

DECISION

The hearing officer's decision is affirmed.

Conflicting evidence was presented on the disputed issue. The hearing officer is the sole judge of the weight and credibility of the evidence. Section 410.165(a). As the finder of fact, the hearing officer resolves the conflicts in the evidence and determines what facts have been established. The hearing officer's decision is supported by the claimant's testimony and by the reports of the treating doctor and the required medical examination doctor. We conclude that the hearing officer's decision is supported by sufficient evidence and that it is not so against the great weight and preponderance of the evidence as to be clearly wrong and unjust. Cain v. Bain, 709 S.W.2d 175 (Tex. 1986).

The hearing officer's decision and order are affirmed.

The true corporate name of the insurance carrier is **AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE COMPANY** and the name and address of its registered agent for service of process is

**CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY  
800 BRAZOS, SUITE 750, COMMODORE 1  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701.**

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Robert W. Potts  
Appeals Judge

CONCUR:

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Elaine M. Chaney  
Appeals Judge

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Thomas A. Knapp  
Appeals Judge